

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 SP-02  
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 NRC-07 CEQ-01  
DOEE-00 /139 W

-----092343 132051Z /63

P 131944Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4094

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E.O.11652/2: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG, MNUS, PARM, UK  
SUB: SUMMARY OF WINDSCALE REPORT (PART II)

REF: LONDON 3660 AND 3966

1. FOLLOWING IS CONTINUATION OF WINDSCALE REPORT:

2. SECTION (17)

17.6 THESE DISADVANTAGES APPEAR TO ME TO BE  
CLEARLY OUTWEIGHED BY THE ADVANTAGES. THE RISKS FROM  
THE ADDITIONAL ROUTINE EMISSIONS ARE VERY SMALL; THE  
ADDITIONAL STORAGE PRESENTS NO SIGNIFICANT RISK AND  
CERTAINLY NO GREATER RISK THAN WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE  
STORAGE FOR PROLONGED PERIODS OF UK SPENT FUEL; THE  
TOTAL HIGHLY ACTIVE WASTE FROM REPROCESSING OF UK AND  
FOREIGN FUEL WILL CONTAIN ONLY A FRACTION OF THE PLUTO-  
NIUM WHICH WOULD BE CONTAINED IN UK FUEL ALONE IF SUCH  
FUEL WERE DISPOSED OF WITHOUT REPROCESSING; THE RISKS  
FROM THE MOVEMENT OF PLUTONIUM CAN BE LARGELY DEALT WITH  
BY TECHNICAL FIXES. THE ONE SUBSTANTIAL OBJECTION WHICH  
APPEARED TO ME TO ARISE IS THAT THE SEPARATION OF PLU-  
TONIUM AND ITS SUPPLY TO NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES WILL  
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PUT THEM NEARER TO THE BOMB. SINCE, HOWEVER, THIS  
MATTER CAN BE ALLEVIATED TO SOME EXTENT BY TECHNICAL  
FIXES; SINCE IT WILL NOT IN ANY EVENT HAPPEN FOR 10  
YEARS; AND SINCE A REFUSAL TO ACCEPT FOREIGN FUEL WOULD  
BE IN BREACH OF THE SPIRIT IF NOT THE LETTER OF THE NPT  
AND WOULD PUT PRESSURE ON NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES  
WHICH COULD LEAD THEM TO PRODUCE THEIR OWN PLUTONIUM

LONG BEFORE THEY COULD RECEIVE ANY FROM THORP I CANNOT REGARD THIS AS AN OVERRIDING OBJECTION.

17.7 IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT UNLESS FOREIGN BUSINESS ON THE REQUIRED SCALE CAN BE OBTAINED BNFL WOULD NOT PROCEED WITH THE PLANT AS PRESENTLY PROPOSED. TO MEET UK NEEDS ONLY WOULD REQUIRE A SMALLER PLANT AND THE WHOLE CONCEPT WOULD HAVE TO BE THE SUBJECT OF RECONSIDERATION AND RE-DESIGN. THIS WOULD BE LIKELY TO INVOLVE AN UNDESIRABLE DELAY IN STARTING ON REPROCESSING OF UK FUEL. IT WOULD ALSO MEAN THAT WHEN FURTHER CAPACITY WAS REQUIRED WE SHOULD, INSTEAD OF HAVING IT AVAILABLE AT THE COST OF FOREIGN CUSTOMERS, HAVE TO FINANCE IT OURSELVES. IN THE LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, I WOULD ANSWER THE THIRD QUESTION IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

17.8 MY PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATIONS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

1. CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO CHARGING SOME INDEPENDENT PERSON OR BODY WITH THE TASK OF (A) VETTING SECURITY PRECAUTIONS BOTH AT WINDSCALE AND DURING TRANSIT OF PLUTONIUM FROM WINDSCALE AND (B) REVIEWING THE ADEQUACY OF SUCH PRECAUTIONS FROM TIME TO TIME (PARA 7.18).
2. BNFL SHOULD DEVOTE EFFORT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLANT FOR THE SAFE REMOVAL AND RETENTION OF UNCLASSIFIED

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KRYPTON 85 AND, IF DEVELOPMENT PROVES SUCCESSFUL, SHOULD INCORPORATE IT IN THE PROPOSED PLANT (PARA 10.52).

3. MORE PERMANENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR WHOLE BODY MONITORING OF LOCAL PEOPLE SHOULD BE INSTITUTED. SUBJECT TO CERTAIN GENERAL PRINCIPLES, THE DETAILS SHOULD BE AGREED BY THOSE DIRECTLY CONCERNED. THEY WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE TO PLANNING CONDITIONS (PARAS 10.93, 10.94 AND 10.126).

4. THE AUTHORISING DEPARTMENTS SHOULD HOWEVER CONSIDER WHETHER PROVISION OF SUCH FACILITIES SHOULD BE MADE A CONDITION OF AUTHORISATION TO DISCHARGE (PARA 10.95).

5. CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE INCLUSION OF SOME WHOLLY INDEPENDENT PERSON OR BODY WITH ENVIRONMENTAL INTERESTS IN THE SYSTEM FOR ADVISING CENTRAL GOVERNMENT ON THE FIXING OF RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION STANDARDS. THAT PERSON OR BODY SHOULD PROBABLY BE CHANGED FROM TIME TO TIME (PARA 10.111).

6. A SINGLE INSPECTORATE, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ROYAL COMMISSION, SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING AND CONTROLLING ALL RADIOACTIVE DISCHARGES (PARA 10.113).

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COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-11 H-02 INR-10 INT-05  
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SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 NRC-07 CEQ-01  
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7. THERE SHOULD BE SPECIFIC DISCHARGE LIMITS FOR EACH SIGNIFICANT RADIONUCLIDE. THE ONUS SHOULD BE PLACED CLEARLY ON THE OPERATOR TO SHOW THAT A DISCHARGE CANNOT PRACTICABLY BE AVOIDED BEFORE THE LIMITS ARE FIXED (APARA 10.115-10.116).

8. THE PROVISIONS OF THE RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT 1960 RELATING TO THE POWERS TO HOLD INQUIRIES INTO PROPOSED AUTHORISATIONS TO DISCHARGE SHOULD BE RE-EXAMINED (PARA 10.122).

9. THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES SHOULD CARRY OUT MORE MONITORING OF ATMOSPHERIC DISCHARGES (PARA 10.126).

10. FRL SHOULD PUBLIC THEIR ANNUAL REPORTS MORE RAPIDLY IN FUTURE. THERE SHOULD, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ROYAL COMMISSION, BE ONE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL SURVEY PUBLISHED OF ALL DISCHARGES AND AT INTERVALS, REPORTS BY NRPB ON RADIATION EXPOSURE (PARA 10.126).

11. BNFL SHOULD DO MORE, IN FUTURE, TO ENSURE THAT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES AT WINDSCALE ARE SUFFICIENT FOR ALL EVENTUALITIES, ARE  
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STRICTLY OBSERVED AND ARE CONTINUALLY REHEARSED.

(PARA 11.11).

12. THE CURRENT REVIEW OF NII SHOULD EXAMINE  
WHETHER THEY ARE SUFFICIENTLY EQUIPPED WITH SCIENTIFIC  
EXPERTISE TO CHECK THE DESIGNS FOR THE PROPOSED PLANT

(PARA 11.24).

13. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THOSE WHO WOULD BE  
REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION UNDER THE WINDSCALE EMERGENCY  
PLAN ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES THE PLAN  
PLACES ON THEM (PARA 11.30).

14. THE LOCAL LIAISON COMMITTEE SHOULD BE RE-  
ORGANISED AND ITS FUNCTIONS RE-DEFINED (PARA 11.34).

15. FUEL FLASKS SHOULD, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE,  
CONTINUE TO BE DELIVERED TO WINDSCALE BY RAIL, BUT THIS  
IS NOT A MATTER APPROPRIATE TO PLANNING CONDITIONS  
(PARAS 14.28 AND 14.45).

16. OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION FOR THORP SHOULD  
BE GRANTED WITHOUT DELAY, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS  
(PARAS 14.39-14.41 AND 16.1).

END.

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## Message Attributes

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